



# TOWN OF VERNON

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## APPROVED MINUTES

### ***ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD***

*14 Park Place, Third Floor, Vernon, Connecticut*

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

***Monday April 27, 2015***

***6:30 PM***

A meeting of the Energy Improvement District Board was held Monday, April 27, 2015. The meeting opened at 6:33 pm. Members in attendance: Chairperson Jeff Boulrice, Tom Aitkin, Town Administrator John Ward, and recording secretary Leslie Campolongo. Members absent was Elizabeth Landry.

Guests in attendance: Robert Kleinhans, Director of Public Works. Lodestar Energy representatives Jaime Smith and Jeffrey Macel. Also in attendance was Mr. Jason Ellis.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

- a. **Moment of Silence** – In recognition of the passing of Dr. Kunz.
- b. **Introduction of New Member** – Not present. Discussion of Ordinance #292, took place regarding the residency requirements for participation in the EIDB.
- c. **Approval of Special Meeting Minutes – January 28, 2015** – Minutes were not presented for approval, as there was no quorum present.

#### **2. PENDING BUSINESS** – Mr. Ward suggested that pending business be reordered to accommodate the guests from Lodestar.

- a. **Lode Star** - Mr. Smith and Mr. Macel made a presentation on a Solar Net Metering Program for the Town. Presentation began at 6:50 pm and concluded at 7:35 pm. The Board was in favor of the project.
- b. **CCM Street Lighting** – Mr. Kleinhans presented information regarding the purchase of streetlight fixtures for the town using Tanko Lighting. The numbers provided are preliminary only, and subject to change after a detailed streetlight audit.
  - Purchase of 1656 fixtures from CLP estimated at \$200/fixture
  - Presently use 850,751 kWh annually
  - Present cost of \$282,747 annually
  - Replacement would
    - i. Reduce use by 570,605 kWh annually
    - ii. Reduce cost by \$227,221 annually
    - iii. Reduction in CO2 emission by 67%

- Rebate incentive available - \$171,182
- Total project cost \$827,000, includes purchase of fixtures from CLP
- Net project cost \$656,000 –Simple payback in 2.89 yrs.

Mr. Aitkin suggested the town get an estimated rebate letter from CLP. Discussion took place regarding whether the labor and maintenance on the streetlights is subcontracted out and whether there are other towns participating in the program.

Mr. Ward indicated the streetlight retrofit program was presented to the Town's Capitol Improvement Committee, and will be added to the Town Council agenda, perhaps by the end of May.

- c. **Bright Ideas Grant** – No update presented. Mr. Boulrice suggested making application in May, using the \$10,000 for Benchmarking energy efficiency study. Discussion took place regarding the Water Pollution Control Facility, its consumption of power, use of hydropower and the pending upgrade to the complex in order to remove phosphorus and nitrogen from the discharge. Construction estimated to begin in 2017-2018.
- d. **CT Clean Energy Community Pledge** – No update presented.
- e. **CT Water/Discussion of Hydropower** – Mr. Ward expressed that the jurisdiction of the EIDB does not include regional water distribution; however, the \$2 million dollars in funding for the Amerbelle Mill and the incorporation of hydropower at the site is still a possibility.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Discussion of C2E2 student intern projects** – The board discussed the potential for student internships. The timing of student projects should intersect with course offerings at UCONN. Mr. Ward will write Dr. Singh to determine interest in several feasibility studies, and see if there are costs associated with internship opportunities: Topics to be included are:
  - a. Feasibility of Hydro power in Vernon
  - b. Feasibility of Solar Panels in Vernon
  - c. Town Building - Energy Reduction
 Mr. Boulrice suggested that perhaps the Bright Ideas grant monies could be used to assist in the project/study.

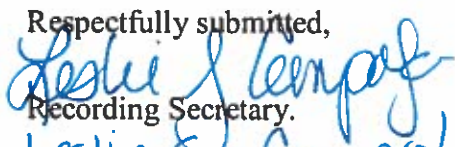
### 4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS - No discussion took place

- a. **Vacancy letter** - from Chris Kunz
- b. **Appointment letter of Elizabeth Yang Landry**

### 5. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Boulrice motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Aitkin. Meeting closed at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Recording Secretary.  
Leslie S. Campolongo